Memoir

OF

BRO. BENJAMIN S. RILEY,

Phœnix Lodge, No. 130.

A. Y. M.

MEMOIR

OF

BRO. BENJAMIN S. RILEY.

BENJAMIN SLATER RILEY, son of Joseph S. and Mary Allison Riley, was born in the City of Philadelphia, on the 27th of August, 1813

He was well instructed in English and the Classics by Mr. William Mann and Mr. John Sanderson, and at an early age, was placed in the mercantile house of Isaac Lawrence, but the business not agreeing with his health, at the age of nineteen, he accepted a situation as clerk in the Manufacturers and Mechanics Bank; and subsequently in the Schuylkill Bank, where he remained until he was twenty-six years of age.

In the year 1839, he commenced the wholesale silk business, and after continuing therein for several years, he accepted the position of Receiving Teller in the Mechanics Bank, which he held for a considerable length of time.

He was afterwards actively engaged in mercantile pursuits, and for several years preceding his death, was cashier of the Philadelphia Gas Works; which position he filled with great ability and uprightness of conduct.

He was married in 1838 to Miss Anna M. Stull, by whom he had eleven children, six of whom survive him. As a man, he was remarkably temperate in all things, eschewing altogether the common vices of the day, and clinging fondly to the enjoyments which cluster around the circle of home. In his habits, he was somewhat retiring, but courteous and affable to all his associates, and in the exercise of the domestic affections, as son, brother, husband and father, he ever displayed those endearing qualities, which more than all else perhaps, make up the sum of human happiness.

He was made a Mason and became a member of Phœnix Lodge, No. 130, March 20, 1839, and during the many years in which he was known and recognized among us, his unostentatious manner and faithful adherence to duty, gave abundant proof that he had deeply studied the principles that underlie our Order, and had carried them out in all the relations of life.

He died on the 27th of June, 1870, in quiet and Christian resignation, in his own home and in the bosom of his family.